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28 February 1952

Thru : Acting Assistant Director, ORR
Chief, Administrative Staff, ORR
Deputy Chief, Materials Division

Personnel Needs of the Petroleum Branch, Materials Division

1. The Petroleum Branch requires a variety of backgrounds among the intelligence officers, including experience in production and exploration, refining, distribution and consumption, and fuel quality.

2. Due to direct military requirements and the sharp change that takes place in petroleum supply during the transition from peace to war, specialized knowledge of logistics and experience in analyzing the strategic implications of petroleum developments are particularly important in the case of the Petroleum Branch. With few exceptions, experience in logistics and strategic analysis is gained only by individuals in the military service.

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3. [REDACTED] an officer of the Quartermaster Corps, Department of the Army, has an unusual combination of petroleum experience that would represent a high value to the Materials Division, particularly during the present stage of development of the Petroleum Branch. [REDACTED] had a number of years of experience in the

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US oil industry prior to War II. During or following the War, he accepted a permanent commission in the Army and, due to the knowledge of petroleum and the general problems of military supply, he was assigned to the Army-Navy Petroleum Board as Director of the Plans and Policy Division in 1946. During his tour of duty with the Army-Navy Petroleum Board, [REDACTED] supervised and directed the development of various studies for the Joint Chiefs of Staff and other organizations dealing with problems involved in the relationship of oil to war. He gained valuable experience in the broad problems of petroleum logistics. Following that assignment, he was requested by the Department of Navy to serve as Deputy Director of the Naval Petroleum Reserves. He was particularly active in the problems of exploration in Northern Alaska, as well as in the policies and plans for the maintenance of established naval petroleum reserves in the continental US. At the present time, he is completing a year in the Industrial College of the Armed Services.

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4. In addition to his experience in the oil industry and highly specialized experience in petroleum logistics and strategic implications of petroleum, [REDACTED] is a very senior and able individual with capacity for organizing and directing group effort in carrying out approved programs. He has had experience in dealing with advisory groups composed of senior executives of the oil industry.

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FOIAb5 5. A branch chief is needed for the Petroleum Branch, and it is believed that [REDACTED] would represent an unusually good choice for that assignment at this time. His specialized knowledge in logistics and strategic interpretations would make him particularly valuable during the current training and development of the permanent branch staff. It is believed that the Military Establishment, as well as CIA, would benefit if he were available to serve as Chief of the Petroleum Branch. It is probable that Colonel

FOIAb5 [REDACTED] would neither seek the assignment nor seek to avoid it.

FOIAb5 6. It is recommended that every reasonable effort be made to obtain the services of [REDACTED] for a two-year tour of duty with CIA as Chief of the Petroleum Branch, Materials Division.

provided the proposed interview with the Chief D/M of appropriate individuals in the O A 77 HCD:VML is favorable.

(two to three years)

[REDACTED] 25X1A9a

Original & one to addressee